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REPORT
CONFERENCE ON OPC TRAINING PROGRAM
21 May 1949

The following persons attended a conference in Room 1707 of L Building concerning the OPC training program from 0900 to 1800 on 21 May 1949:

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[Redacted]
sultant
onsultant
ZO/OPC
COS/OPC
TRS/OSO
TRS/OSO
CTO/OPC
Deputy COS/OPC
C Training Staff
OPC Training Staff
OPC Training Staff

The agenda for the meeting is attached. (See attachment No.1.)

I. OSO Training. Mr. [Redacted] described current OSO training courses and facilities:

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A. 1. Basic Intelligence Course; four weeks, for cleared and uncleared students to date; maximum regular students, twenty; lectures and problem work.

2. Advanced Intelligence Course; six weeks; chiefly for

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[Redacted] The operating techniques required by the students vary, but an attempt is made to supply all the information needed by all, with opportunity for some specialization. Three weeks of this course are devoted to operations and the study of Communism, which apply equally to OPC students. Some of the other lectures are intimate OSO information, but there is no real objection to OPC students obtaining this knowledge. The problem work and some lectures are given by the training staff, but many of the lecturers are highly-specialized OSO area men.

3. Special Advanced Course, for outstanding students and returned field representatives.

4. Administrative Course, for field administrators; one week; given at irregular intervals.

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5. Special Training. TRS/OSO has four men who are technical specialists on surveillance, [Redacted] photography,

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etc. In addition, OSO has a Commo Division and a Cover and Documentation Division which offer training, and TRS/OSO has the function of coordinating and routing students through the other facilities of OSO as well as its own training. A four- to six-week special investigative course is planned for the coming fall.

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B. 1. Mr. [] did not go deeply into the T/O of TRS/OSO because a revision is under consideration.

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2. The question of the use of non-TRS lecturers in OSO courses was covered briefly by Mr. [] in his discussion of the Advanced Course. Lectures by OSO and other CIA specialists are considered extremely valuable, but lectures from outside CIA have not proved successful.

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4. The use of the language training facilities of the Foreign Service Institute was also discussed by [] with the statement that three to four months full-time was requisite for the mastery of a difficult language, while half-time attendance might suffice for a simple language.

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II. Colonel [] presented a study of the proposed training facilities of OPC to meet requirements anticipated in the near future, together with a proposed T/O, and a statement of questions that have not yet been solved. (See attachment No.2.)

III. The coordination of OSO and OPC training in all possible aspects has been encouraged by both offices. A Joint OSO/OPC Training Committee was established 19 January 1949 and consists of two representatives of each training division, including both the chiefs of training. The Committee has no executive powers, but makes

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recommendations to the chiefs of training in matters within their authority, or to the assistant directors in policy matters exceeding the authority of the chiefs of training.

It can be foreseen that with some revision the present OSO basic, advanced, administrative, deep-cover, and technical courses can serve the training needs of both offices.

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A suggested organization chart showing the training responsibilities and courses which might be coordinated, thus effecting a saving of personnel and facilities, was exhibited by Mr. [redacted]. On this chart coordinated courses, assessment, and research stemmed from the authority of the Joint Training Committee.

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The proposed chart brought out the suggestion of Mr. [redacted] that all OSO and OPC training be placed under the authority of a Joint Training Board, composed of two members of each office, and that a separate T/O be established for this purpose, leaving in the T/O of each office of training only the chief and a secretarial assistant. Such a plan would require the establishment of a strong Chief of Joint Training, probably a CAF-15. The group considered such matters as making the Chief of Joint Training a voting member of the Board, asking that a fifth member be a representative of CIA in general, and the establishment of an Advisory Committee to the Joint Training Board. "The consensus of opinion seemed to be that a Joint Training Board, consisting of the chiefs of training of OSO and OPC, one other representative from each office, and a representative of the executive office of CIA as voting members, with the chief of joint training and the chief of assessment as non-voting members, would be the most satisfactory plan, provided that such an autonomous board was established."

IV. The afternoon session of the conference was devoted to a presentation of training requirements by various OPC program chiefs.

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course outlined by OPC training they felt that the problems confronting OPC training, chiefly the location of an area and the selection of instructor personnel, could be resolved by routing students for all the physical aspects of their training into established military courses and finishing that training with a special OPC course designed for indoctrination and motivation toward OPC objectives.

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